

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

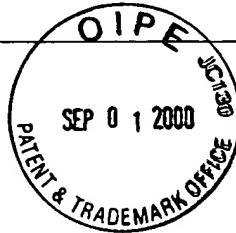
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Application of: Lubenow et al.

Serial No.: 09/353,407

Filed: July 15, 1999

Entitled: Methods for Separating Particulate Substrates  
from Solution While Minimizing Particle Loss



ART UNIT: 1655

EXAMINER: A. Chakrabarti

Atty. Docket No.: QGN-004.0 US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action (Paper No. 6) mailed March 2, 2000, in the above-identified application. A Petition for a three-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action along with the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3) accompanies this Amendment.

Please amend the application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS

- A,
1. (amended) A [separation] method of separating particles from a solution while minimizing particle loss comprising the steps of:
    - (a) combining a solution and a finely divided particulate matrix material, where said matrix material is insoluble in said solution, in the presence of a detergent;
    - (b) collecting the particles of the particulate matrix material; and
    - (c) separating [removing] the supernatant from the particulate matrix material.

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